

15. São Paulo Forum: a narco-terrorist army

Within 48 hours of the Dec. 17 takeover of the Japanese ambassador's residence in Lima, Peru by the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA), the continental narco-terrorist army to which it belongs, the São Paulo Forum, surfaced publicly to support the guerrillas and demand Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori's immediate surrender to them.

The most vociferous of these terrorist voices was that of Antonio Navarro Wolf, a leader of Colombia's "legalized" April 19 Movement (M-19), whose 1980 takeover of the Dominican Republic's embassy in Bogotá was a model for the MRTA's seizure of the Japanese ambassador's residence. Nicaraguan Sandinista Daniel Ortega, spokesmen for the narco-terrorist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), Chile's Manuel Rodríguez Patriotic Front (FPMR), and El Salvador's Farabundo Martí Liberation Front (FMLN) all defended the MRTA, and threatened Fujimori not to consider anything other than a "peaceful" negotiated solution, designed to undermine Peruvian sovereignty.

This mobilization on the MRTA's behalf confirms *EIR's* repeated assertion that terrorism is an international, not a national, phenomenon. The MRTA's "mother," the São Paulo Forum, is a strike force made up of the continent's major narco-terrorist insurgencies, among them the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Union (URNG), Colombia's National Guerrilla Coordinator (CNG), Mexico's Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN), Haiti's Lavalas movement, as well as the MRTA supporters.

The apparatus supporting the Forum is an international one. The far-flung network of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), self-proclaimed human rights activists, and terrorist supporters otherwise known as the "Internet International," not only offers international backing—including financing—for groups such as the EZLN; it represents a terrorist capability inside the United States, and in European and other nations, which can be unleashed when deemed necessary. A Wall Street-linked think-tank, the Inter-American Dialogue (IAD), together with elements inside the U.S. State Department, provide another level of support. This includes joint membership in the Forum and the IAD of Brazilian Workers Party leader Luiz Inacio "Lula" da Silva, and IAD-sponsored conferences hosting Forum leaders.

The commando squad which took the Japanese ambassador's residence reportedly includes Chileans, Colombians, and Central Americans. The May 1993 explosion of a weapons arsenal in Managua, Nicaragua, provided evidence of

tight Cuban and Sandinista intelligence control over a narco-terrorist apparatus extending into the rest of Ibero-America and beyond, connecting with such groups as the Americas Battalion, the MRTA, Spain's ETA, and Ecuador's Alfaro Vive Carajo!

A new Communist International

The São Paulo Forum was founded officially at a July 1990 conference in São Paulo, Brazil at the initiative of the Cuban Communist Party (CP), a founding member. The CP understood that the 1989 fall of the Berlin Wall, and the crisis it provoked among socialists, would require a reorganization in revolutionary strategy for the Western Hemisphere.

At the São Paulo conference, representatives of 40 organizations and parties, from 13 Ibero-American and Caribbean countries, met with Cuban officials to discuss this reorganization. In the six years since the Forum's founding, the Cuban CP has transformed it from a loose, political-umbrella organization, with a mandate to propose common action, into the centrally controlled killing machine it is today. Some 107 parties, groups, and sectlets belong to the Forum, and *EIR* estimates that it may have upwards of 250,000 deployable cadre and followers under its command, perhaps 20-30,000 of them armed.

Fidel Castro is the Forum's de facto leader, and its *éminence gris* is Manuel Piñeiro, the founder of Cuba's General Intelligence Directorate (DGI), and, for many years, head of the Americas Department of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee. From that post, Piñeiro coordinated the deployment of a centralized terrorist international.

With an ideology that combines environmentalism, liberation theology, indigenism, and New Age satanism, the Forum deploys for the sole purpose of smashing the sovereign nation-state and institutions that embody it, such as the armed forces. The Forum's July 1993 plenary in Havana attacked the military as one of "the gravest threats to political democracy." The Zapatistas in Chiapas, Mexico are separatists, operating under the banner of defending "indigenous peoples." The Forum's goal is to create many "Chiapas," and its Sorbonne-trained leaders have no qualms about using the poor Indians and peasants they supposedly defend, as cannon fodder toward this end.

The "narco" character of the São Paulo Forum cannot be overemphasized, as evidenced by the prominent role within it of Colombia's "Third Cartel," the FARC. After the post-1989 collapse of financing from Soviet and Socialist International sources, Cuban officials advised member groups to adopt the "M-19 model" of self-reliance through the drug trade. Today, drug and weapons trafficking, kidnapping, and extortion constitute a major source of financing. The Forum's shift into an open defense of the drug trade is signalled by members' calls for drug legalization and attacks on U.S.-backed coca-eradication programs in the Andean region.